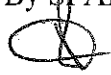


MINUTES
OF THE
IOWA STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2015

HELD AT:
IOWA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WALLACE BLDG, 4E

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By SPAB: 4-6-15

Director's Signature: 

4/8/15

Bruce Trautman
Deputy Director

RECORD COPY

File Name: ADM 1-1-1

SPAB MINUTES

Sender's initials: IC

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State Preserves Advisory Board Minutes
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Preserves Advisory Board (SPAB) was called to order by Wayne Phipps, SPAB Chairperson on February 10, 10:15 a.m. He then welcomed guests present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Phipps, Chair
Leesa McNeil*
Kirk Larsen*
Lynn Alex
Inger Lamb*
Bruce Trautman

*Attendance by webinar and conference call

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Loren Christensen

DNR STAFF PRESENT

John Pearson
Karen Fynaardt
Kelly Poole
Aaron Brees
John Wenck
Seth Moore
Angela Corio
Todd Rozendaal

GUEST / PUBLIC PRESENT

Cindy Peterson, OSA, Iowa City
Glen Pollock, Omaha NE
Jerry Selby, Ecol. & GIS Services, Indianola, IA

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion – McNeil made a motion to approve the agenda as written.

Seconded – Seconded by Alex

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2. MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 10, 2014

Motion – McNeil made a motion to approve the minutes with the change on page 3 National Register Site to National Register Historic Places as written.

Seconded – Seconded by Trautman.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS WRITTEN

3. IOWAVILLE TRACT AS POTENTIAL NEW PRESERVE

Cindy Peterson and John Wenck gave information on an archaeologically significant tract of land along the Des Moines River near Iowaville in VanBuren County is being nominated as a potential state preserve., They will keep the board informed on the future of site ownership.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

4. RIGGLEMAN-SOENKSEN WOODS AS POTENTIAL NEW PRESERVE

Glenn Pollock presented information on the natural woodland in western Iowa owned by the Crawford County Conservation Board and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation it is being nominated as a potential state preserve.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

5. GITCHIE MANITOU STATE PRESERVE

Angela Corio presented an update on the status of the proposed Blood Run State Parkmaster plan and interpretive exhibit and its potential involvement of Gitchie Manitou State Preserve.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

6. SPIRIT KNOLL RESEARCH PRESENTATION

John Selby presented his summary of findings of the research and inventory projects supported by Preserves Board funding in 2013-14 was a study of the butterflies, moths, and plants of Spirit Knoll.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

7. SPIRIT KNOLL BOUNDARY ISSUE

Todd Rozendaal explained the discrepancy in the boundary between DNR land and an adjoining private tract that has been traced to an error in the deed description. The DNR is working with the neighbors on an agreement to correct the legal description by moving the boundary slightly to the east. This agreement should be in place by the end of March

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

8. SPIRIT KNOLL MANAGEMENT PLAN

A proposed prairie management plan for the preserve has been developed among managers, archaeologists, and insect experts that identifies zones for prescribed burning, conservation grazing, and mechanical brush control, including a large no-grazing zone centered on archeological features and several permanent non-burn refugia for fire-sensitive insects. In accordance with recommendation received today from Jerry Selby, Kirk Larsen requested staff to investigate options for subdividing the "prairie-pasture" tract into two or more burn units. Staff will investigate and report back to Board at the April meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

9. SPIRIT KNOLL NAME CHANGE

Making use of a Native American word for the great-horned owl, "Heendah Hills" has been suggested by Lance Foster as a new name for the preserve. John Doershuk, director of the Office of the State Archaeologist, has endorsed this suggestion. Lynn Alex requested that description of how the name was chosen be added to the management plan.

Motion – McNeil made a motion to approve the change of Spirit Knoll name to Heendah Hills and using the Great Horned Owl as a site icon.

Seconded – Seconded by Lamb

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

DECISION APPROVED

10. MARIETTA SAND PRAIRIE CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

This 17-acre preserve was dedicated in 1984; in 2006, an additional 212 acres were added as buffer. In 2013, the Preserves Board funded a conservation assessment of the original 17-acre preserve as one of six preserves studied in Iowa by Dr. Wayne Schennum. The Iowa Prairie Network then funded additional work by Dr. Schennum to write a management plan for the whole 219-acre site (becoming the first written plan for the preserve). The Marshall County Conservation Board, which owns and manages this property, has reviewed and accepted this plan; concurrence from the Preserves Board is requested.

Motion – McNeil made a motion to table the issue for reconsideration of the burn plan for the prairie in the state preserve. Staff will investigate and report to the Board at the April meeting.

Seconded – Seconded by Lamb

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

TABLED THE ISSUE TO NEXT MEETING

11. ROLLING THUNDER PRAIRIE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Iowa Prairie Network also funded Dr. Schennum's work to write a management plan for this 123-acre preserve in Warren County, also resulting in the first-ever written plan for this preserve. The Warren County Conservation Board, which owns and manages this preserve, has reviewed and accepted this plan; concurrence from the Preserves Board is requested.

Motion – McNeil made a motion to concur with the management plan for Rolling Thunder Prairie

Seconded – Seconded by Lamb

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

DECISION APPROVED

12. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Request for Proposals for Research and Inventory on state preserves for the 2015-16 fiscal year has been prepared. Lynn Alex requested addition of Rolling Thunder Prairie State Preserve for Phase I inventory and addition of Spirit Knoll (Heendah Hills) for interpretive materials. Staff will review and make minor changes to update the form for 2015.

Motion – McNeil made a motion

Seconded – Seconded by Alex

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

DECISION APPROVED

13. 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STATE PRESERVATION SYSTEM

Memorial Day plans are being made for celebration in northeast Iowa by Iowa Native Plant Society. The July business meeting will be rescheduled for July 15 at the Tallgrass Prairie Center in Cedar Falls to precede the July 16-18 Iowa Prairie Conference.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

NEXT MEETING:

2015 – April 7 – Yellow Smoke County Park with tour of Riggleman-Soenksen Woods – Crawford CCB
July 15 – Tall Grass Prairie Center, Cedar Falls, 1:00 p.m.
July 16,17,18 Iowa Prairie Conference, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
October 6 – Iowaville tour (details to be arranged)

ADJOURNMENT

<i>Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trautman and so moved by Alex. Approved by Unanimous Vote. With no further business to come before the Iowa State Preserves Advisory Board, Chairperson Wayne Phipps adjourned the meeting on 2-10-15 at 12:45 pm.</i>

APPROVED – MEETING ADJOURNED

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